Theft of Ancient Stone Idols from Jagannath Temple

1614. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:
SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:
Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that huge quantity of old and ancient stone idols have been stolen from the Sri Jagannath Temple complex during the recent repair and restoration work;

(b) if so, whether any inquiry has been conducted in this regard; and

(c) if answer to part (b) above be in the affirmative, the details in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) The Archaeological Survey of India is not aware about the theft of any old and ancient stone idols form the Jagannath Temple, Puri during the recent repair works.

(b) and (c) However, as per the F.I.R. lodged by the Chairman, Puri District citizens Forum, the matter is under investigation by State Authorities.

Decentralisation of Functioning of Government Schools

1615. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Delhi Administration has approved a proposal to decentralise its authority to rationalise the functioning of Government schools so as to tone up their performance;

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) the likely impact of such decentralisation on students and their studies?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (c) One of the recommendations of the Expert Committee appointed by the Delhi Administration is that the Delhi School Education Act and Rules, 1973 be amended to extend the scope of their application to Govt. schools and to decentralize & debureaucratize the administration of education to make it accountable and responsive. Delhi Administration has intimated that since this recommendation involves amendment of the Act, its implementation would have to wait till a Legislative Assembly is constituted for Delhi.

Microfilming of Estampages and Computerisation of Epigraphical Data

1616. SHRI V. RAJESHWAR RAO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering the microfilming and preservation of estampages and computerisation of epigraphical data under the Department of Archaeology;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) what is the expenditure likely to be incurred on this microfilming and computerisation?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) and (b) There is no proposal at present for microfilming and computerisation of epigraphical data by the Archaeological Survey of India. However, necessary steps have been taken to preserve the estampages.

(c) Does not arise.

Threat to stop fresh admissions in professional colleges

1617. SHRIMATI CHANDRIKA ABHINANDAN JAIN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that private professional colleges in Karnataka, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu have threatened to stop admission for academic year 1993-94;

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken to ensure smooth admission so that the admission seekers do not suffer; and

(c) whether Government have formulated any final policy for admission in these colleges, if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION